

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2021
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK:

“IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, AND POSTED, THAT A WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR THE FOURTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021, WITH THE WORK SESSION TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:30 P.M. AND THE REGULAR MEETING TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AT THE LAKEHURST COMMUNITY CENTER, 207 CENTER STREET, LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE BOROUGH WILL BE CONDUCTED.”

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN LOWE: ABSENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT	

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:34 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:34 pm

Mayor Robbins announced representatives for the future Wawa were in attendance.

Attorney Tyler Prime, attorney for the future Wawa, stated he was here tonight to answer any questions or concerns the council or public may have in regard to Ordinance #2021-01 that allows Lilac Street to be a two-way street from Route 70 to Union Avenue.

Councilman DiMeo asked if there were any updates in regard to 6 Union Avenue.

Borough Attorney Ian Goldman responded he has spoken to the property owner's attorney, Joseph Coronato, who stated he will be reaching out to the Borough Zoning Officer to get information on what are the permitted uses.

Mayor Robbins stated the property owner has been issued a fine.

Councilwoman Hodges stated the building needs to be demolished now adding it is unsafe.

Mr. DiMeo stated the property owner had plenty of time to discuss with the zoning officer about the permitted uses. Mr. DiMeo also stated the building is a danger to the children who attend the dance studio across the street adding parents park in the parking lot next to the dilapidated building.

Mr. Goldman responded he will speak with Mr. Coronato and express the displeasure of the council and that the council wants action now. Mr. Goldman stated he will have a more affirmative answer for the next council meeting.

Mrs. Hodges expressed the need to know when the building will be demolished.

Councilman McCarthy requested the property owner ensure the structure is safe adding the caution tape is not sufficient.

Council President Oglesby reported he and the Mayor will be having a meeting with the borough engineer to discuss the watermain project phase II and added they will have a report for the next meeting.

Councilman McCarthy report that he met with Danny Dries, the Fire Department Chief, and added that Mr. Dries has purged many items that are damaged, not longer in use, or outdated. Mr. McCarthy stated the fire department had received a grant several years back to switch all their Scott air packs to self-contained MSA air packs adding the grant is for fifteen years. Mr. McCarthy also stated the Scott air packs still have a useful life adding Mr. Dries would like to donate the packs to surrounding mutual aid companies.

Mayor Robbins responded donating to surrounding mutual aid companies builds good relations.

All in agreement to donate equipment to surrounding mutual aid companies.

Mr. McCarthy asked if there was any progress on garbage issue at Garden Homes Mobile Park.

4. Resolution #21-054 re: Authorizing cancellation of 2020 taxes and issue a refund to the homeowner

ORDINANCES APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST AMENDING CHAPTER XXV OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ENTITLED LAND DEVELOPMENT" (#2021-03)

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, REPEALING ORDINANCE 25-27.41 TITLED "STORM DRAINAGE" AND ORDINANCE 25-27.48 TITLED "WATER QUALITY" CONTAINED WITHIN CHAPTER XXV ENTITLED LAND DEVELOPMENT. (#2021-04)

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

ORDINANCES NOT ON CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2021-01 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST AMENDING CHAPTER VII OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ENTITLED TRAFFIC" (#2021-01). Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Time Opened: 7:51 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time Closed: 7:51 pm

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

To adopt Ordinance #2021-01. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Motion by: James Davis
To approve on second reading and open the public hearing of Ordinance #2021-02 entitled: "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER X, TITLED PARKS, LAKES AND RECREATION AREAS OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST" (#2021-02). Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Robert McCarthy
Time Opened: 7:52 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time Closed: 7:52 pm

Motion by: Patricia Hodges
To adopt Ordinance #2021-02. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Brian DiMeo

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

SECOND PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING:

Motion by: Steven Oglesby
To open the second public hearing for 2021 Community Development Block Grant funding. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: James Davis

Time opened: 7:53 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 7:53 pm

Motion by: Steven Oglesby
To close the second public hearing for 2021 Community Development Block Grant funding. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Robert McCarthy

RESOLUTION REGARDING 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION:

Motion by: James Davis
To approve Resolution #21-055 regarding 2021 Community Development Block Grant application. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilman DiMeo reported the borough received enough snow for the Youth and Recreation to hold a Snowman Building contest. Mr. DiMeo stated the committee had a few participants and added pictures were posted to the Youth and Recreation Facebook page.

Council President Oglesby commanded the Public Works Department for a “job well done” adding the borough roads are the best.

Councilman McCarthy reported Lakehurst Elementary School reopened on January 18th for students to return to the classrooms but was closed on January 29th by the CDC recommendations. Mr. McCarthy stated the school plans to reopen on February 16th adding that night is the Board of Education meeting.

Mr. McCarthy also reported Fire Chief Danny Dries had “cleaned house”. Mr. McCarthy stated items that are no longer in compliant will be disposed of and added other items will be put on GovDeals.com to be auction off. Mr. McCarthy further stated items that do not get auction off, Mr. Dries will reach out to the Lakehurst Historical Museum and Fireman’s Museums to see if they would be interested in displaying the items. Mr. McCarthy went on to say if the museums are not interest, the items will be scrapped. Mr. McCarthy also stated the fire department had received over the years many items from the federal government that have past their statue of limitations and are no use to the fire department adding Mr. Dries is looking into how to properly dispose of these items. Mr. McCarthy further stated the fire department no longer has a need to keep the Deuce Fire Truck adding the money to maintain the truck could be going into equipment that is useful.

Councilman Davis stated the Deuce Fire Truck came from the State Forestry adding it needs to be returned to them.

Mr. McCarthy stated he is very please with Mr. Dries approach to the fire company adding he has streamlined all the equipment, his drills are magnificent, and his leadership is excellent.

Mr. Davis reported the Lakehurst Neighborhood Watch page on social media had a letter commanding public works for their kindness and consideration the day of the snowstorm. Mr. Davis stated he sent a copy of the letter to Public Works Department Head Dave Winton along with a “job well done”. Mr. Davis also stated the public works department does a magnificent job adding they plow the borough streets curb to curb down to the asphalt.

Mr. Oglesby stated the representatives for the future Wawa did come to the Land Use Board meeting well prepared adding they done their due diligence.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 8:02 pm

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time closed: 8:02 pm

CLOSED SESSION:

Clerk Capasso reads resolution to go into closed session:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, **and**

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Lakehurst, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.

The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed is as follows:

PERSONNEL MATTERS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by: Steven Oglesby

Seconded by: Patricia Hodges

To approve resolution to go into closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Time into closed session: 8:05 pm

Time out of closed session: 8:10 pm

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Robert McCarthy

To end closed session. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by: James Davis

Seconded by: Robert McCarthy

To adjourn meeting. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative. Time: 8:11 pm

Maryanne Capasso, RMC
Municipal Clerk